**Title: The Oral Health Status of Older People with Intellectual Disabilities in Ireland. Initial Findings.**

**Aims:** To describe the oral status and function of the participants in the IDS TILDA study using the Oral Status Survey Tool (OSST) health evaluation survey. This includes tooth count; denture wear; occluding pairs of teeth and functional dentition; oral cleanliness; gum condition; carious cavitation and oral pain.

**Methods:**

A cross-sectional survey of the oral status and function of older adults with intellectual disabilities in wave 4 of the Intellectual Disability Supplement to The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (IDS TILDA) study.

Following training and calibration, the validated OSST tool (Mac Giolla Phadraig et al, 2021) was used to

record oral health status among participants. The statistical software SPSS V22 was used to conduct

analyses. Ethical approval was secured.

**Results:**

From the 213 participants, the mean number of teeth was 14. Edentulism was reported by 26.2% (n=49)

while denture wear was uncommon. Regarding oral function 83% (n=177) were missing at least one

intercanine tooth. Regarding occlusion, 27.8% (n=50) had no occlusal contacts and a further 16.1%

(n=29) had only anterior contacts, lacking any posterior contact. Ten per cent reported oral pain in the

last week (n=21). Regarding oral status, 44.9% (n=78) were found to have cavitated caries and 62% had

poor oral hygiene.

**Conclusions:**

This study confirms the poor oral health status of people with intellectual disabilities. The unique focus on function demonstrates highly prevalent inadequate dentition for aesthetic and occlusal function. There is a need to identify the oral status and function of people with ID to understand what causes these outcomes and how oral status impacts successful ageing for people with ID.

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**Declarations**

The authors declare that appropriate ethical approval has been received for the

Research presented here and that proof of ethical approval can be produced on request.

**Reference:** Mac Giolla Phadraig C, Ishak NS, van Harten M, et al. The Oral Status Survey Tool:

construction, validity, reliability and feasibility among people with mild and moderate intellectual

disabilities. J Intellect Disabil Res. 2021;65(5):437-451. doi:10.1111/jir.12820